



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Big Bend National Park
P.O. Box 129
Big Bend National Park, TX 79834

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Big Bend National Park News Release

Stakeholder Outreach Planned for Big Bend National Park's Proposed Entrance and Backcountry Fee Increases

Big Bend National Park will be providing stakeholder outreach to discuss possible fee increases in 2015. The current park entrance fees have been in place since December 31, 2006.

The fee schedule below shows how Big Bend National Park fees would change under the proposed fee structure.

Fee type	Current fee (2014)	Proposed fee (2015)
Big Bend NP annual pass <ul style="list-style-type: none">Grants unlimited entry for one year to pass owner and passengers in same car	\$40	\$50
Big Bend NP single vehicle fee <ul style="list-style-type: none">Grants unlimited entry for one vehicle and passengers for seven consecutive days	\$20	\$25
Big Bend NP "per person" fee <ul style="list-style-type: none">Walk-up or single bicycle feeGrants unlimited entry for seven consecutive days	\$10	\$12
Big Bend NP Motorcycle fee <ul style="list-style-type: none">Grants unlimited entry for one motorcycle and passenger for seven consecutive days	\$10	\$20
Big Bend NP Backcountry Camping Fee <ul style="list-style-type: none">Grants overnight backcountry camping for up to 14 consecutive nights per permit	\$10	\$12

Entrance fees are not charged to persons under 16 years of age or holders of the America the Beautiful National Parks and Federal Recreational Senior, Access or Military Passes. These passes may be obtained at Big Bend National Park.

"We are committed to keeping Big Bend National Park affordable, but we also want to provide visitors with the best possible experience," said Park Superintendent Cindy Ott-Jones. Funds received from entrance fees are used to improve facilities, park infrastructure, and visitor services. Recent park improvements funded by park entrance fees include Rio Grande Village Visitor Center restroom improvements, resurfacing portions of River Road, and rehabilitating Chisos Basin campsites.

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

A 2014 NPS economic impact report demonstrated that just under 300,000 visitors to Big Bend National Park in 2012 spent \$24.23M in communities around the park. This spending supported over 322 jobs in the local area, not including the 80 permanent and 45 seasonal staff working directly for the park and another 80-100 concessions employees in or near the park. National park tourism is also recognized as a significant driver in the national economy – returning \$10 for every \$1 invested in the National Park Service.

A 45-day review and comment period starts December 2nd, 2014, and continues through January 16th, 2015. To see the proposal, visit the National Park Service Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) website at: <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/bibe> during the comment period.

Written comments may be submitted on the PEPC website or may be sent to:

Superintendent
Attention: Proposed Fee Increase
P.O. Box 129
Big Bend National Park, Texas 79834

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made public at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

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